



PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Hideo FUNAYAMA et al.

Group Art Unit: 2832

Application No.: 09/694,988

Examiner: Ramon M. Barrera

Filed: October 25, 2000

Docket No.: 107412

For: ELECTROMAGNETIC RELAY

*6/Election
Shen
7/22/03*

RESPONSE TO ELECTION OF SPECIES REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

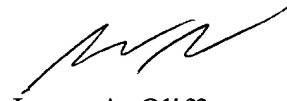
In reply to the June 18, 2003 Election of Species Requirement, Applicants provisionally elect Species I, Figures 4-6, claims 1-3, 5 and 6. It is submitted that at least claims 1 and 2 are generic to all species. This election is made with traverse.

It is respectfully submitted that the subject matter of all species is sufficiently related that a thorough search for the subject matter of the elected species would encompass a search for the subject matter of the remaining species. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the search and examination of the entire application could be made without serious burden. See MPEP §803 in which it is stated that "if the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to independent or distinct inventions" (emphasis added). It is respectfully submitted that this policy should apply in the present application in order to avoid unnecessary delay and expense to Applicants and duplicative examination by the U. S. Patent and Trademark Office.

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In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1-19 can be examined without undue burden on the Examiner. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the Election of Species Requirement be withdrawn.

Respectfully submitted,



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JAO:TMN/dap

Date: July 16, 2003

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